

## WHAT IS CLAIMED 9

## New Patent Claims

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- 1) Method for determining the position of text lines in text recognition tasks, whereby the brightness distribution of an acquired image excerpt along the vertical is determined by histogram formation along the lines, and this brightness distribution is smoothed, whereby maximum value and minimum value of the function obtained in this way are determined, and thresholds that serve as the basis for distinguishing between text line and text interspace are calculated on the basis of these extremes, characterized in that a line interspace is ascertained when the function has a combination of a maximum with a minimum in which the minimum has a value of less than function minimum + number of pixels over the width of the image excerpt/15 + 2\*number of pixels over the width of the image excerpt/15 \* function maximum/number of pixels over the width of the image excerpt, and the decrease in the function values after the maximum has a value of greater than (function maximum - function minimum)/2.
- 2) Method according to one of the Claims 1, **characterized** in that in order to ascertain the left-hand edge of a line, the brightness distribution of a captured image excerpt along the horizontal is determined and the function obtained in this way represents the beginning of a line by an abrupt rise in the function value.
- 3) Method according to one of Claims 1 or 2, **characterized** in that after the position of a line has initially been ascertained, the further profile of the said line is determined by evaluating the information concerning the text characters recognized.